

APPROVED: Meeting No. 25-84

ATTEST: *Helen M. Heneghan*

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

MEETING NO. 18-84

June 7, 1984

The Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, convened in work session in the Council Chamber, Rockville City Hall, Maryland at Vinson Street, Rockville, Maryland on Thursday, June 7, 1984, at 7:40 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor John R. Freeland  
(arrived at 8:05)

Councilman Steve Abrams  
(arrived at 8:40)

Councilman Douglas Duncan

Councilwoman Viola Hovsepien

Councilman John Tyner, II

The Mayor in the Chair.

In attendance: City Manager Larry Blick; City Attorney Paul Glasgow;  
City Clerk Helen M. Heneghan.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Animal Control

Councilman Tyner discussed the Animal Control situation at length with Chief Stout. Testimony was given at the public hearing by the Chairman of the Animal Control Board, suggesting that there is a problem with understaffing. The Council agreed to place \$5,000 on the decision list in order to secure the services of a warden, part-time, to bring the program up to par. There were no secretarial additions since Chief Stout suggested that by spreading out the licensing year, the extremely busy schedule at one time of the year will be lightened considerably.

Police Activities

Councilwoman Hovsepien asked if the force is at full strength. Chief Stout said they are two short but they will be filled, one by the end of the fiscal year and the other shortly afterwards bringing the force to 28. Councilman Tyner discussed the various approaches to increasing the strength of the force since there are two extra in this budget who would be on CDS work. He suggested possibly the addition of two more would help the patrol situation. Councilwoman

Hovsepian said she has a problem with increasing the force. She has not heard from the citizens that they wish that to happen. Chief Stout outlined the various improvements he could make in the force with the addition of officers. Councilman Tyner felt two more should be added to the wish list. Mayor Freeland disagreed and said two officers being added in the budget will give a significant impact. At the next budget cycle the Mayor and Council can relook at the situation or at mid-year. The Mayor and Council can lay out their policies, compare it to the resources, and give an objective assessment. Councilman Tyner suggested that this be done in such a manner that a work-up be prepared and given to the Council well in advance of the mid-year budget. Councilmembers Hovsepian and Duncan agreed with the Mayor's comments. Mayor Freeland suggested that the Chief look into the addition of non-sworn officers stationed at Metro stations in radio contact to assist with any problems.

#### Water Treatment

The Council made no changes.

#### Utility Billing and Customer Service

The Council made no changes.

#### Water Distribution

The Council made no changes.

#### Water System Construction

The Council made no changes.

#### Code Enforcement

Councilwoman Hovsepian noted that one of her priorities next year will be the clean up of shopping centers. She asked if more personnel will be needed. Mr. Groff said it can be accomplished with the present staff. Councilman Tyner asked how the enforcement of the sign ordinance is going. Mayor Freeland suggested a work session be scheduled of the Mayor and Council and the License and Inspection department some time this summer to go over the changes to enable the Mayor and Council to more readily respond to citizen comments.

#### Property Maintenance Codes

The Council made no changes.

#### Building Construction Codes

The Council made no changes.

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Robert Turner, Chairman of the Economic Development Commission, briefed the Council and outlined the goals and process of setting up a local development corporation. The Commission arrived at this suggestion since looking into Economic Development Corporations they found them to be less than satisfactory.

and a Local Development Corporation would seem to fit Rockville's needs. Mentioned in the recommendations is the hiring of an executive director. \$25,000 is in the present budget and the EDC is asking for \$25,000 for next year in order to initiate the program. Councilman Abrams disagreed with the program of hiring of a director since it seems to him that the goals the corporation would hope to accomplish are being done presently by the private sector and by private development and he saw no need of the City getting involved. He saw no purpose in funding an executive director since it would seem to be a hunt and seek operation. More can be accomplished through a Targets of Opportunities program. He asked what needs need to be identified. The Mayor suggested there would be the idea to give the corporation the money and let them run it. He compares it to the Community Clinic and its independent operation. Councilman Tyner said if it was the hope of the corporation to secure funds, most grants are dried up. Councilman Abrams said it was more appropriate for the County to undertake this program since it would be a concept without a target and the City is the wrong level of government to address it. After further discussion the Council requested the Mr. Turner come back with a list of funding sources to the Council and they can act upon this at their wrap up session.

#### Rockville Housing Authority

The Council has had submitted a list of requests from the Housing Authority as follows:

1. Two full-time maintenance workers	\$30,000	
Benefits	<u>4,500</u>	
		\$34,500
	SUBTOTAL	

(The Mayor and Council did not agree.)

2. Groundskeepers		
3 x \$3.65/hr (April 1 - July 31)	7,600	
2 x \$3.65/hr (August 1 - October 31)	3,800	
1 x \$3.65/hr (November 1 - March 31)	2,375	
Benefits	<u>2,066</u>	
		\$15,841
	SUBTOTAL	

(This will be done by City workers and bill RHA at cost.)

3. Extermination Service		\$10,000
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(This will be done through CDBG funds provided RHA produces a plan for ongoing maintenance.)

4. Grounds Equipment		
Riding Mower	\$ 7,600	
Snow Blower	<u>900</u>	
		\$ 8,500
	SUBTOTAL	

(Unnecessary, City workers will use City equipment)

5. Re-stripe Parking Lots	\$ 2,500
(Included under smoothseal)	
6. Groundskeeping Supplies	250
(Included under No. 2)	
7. Patch Parking Lots	0
(Included under smoothseal which costs \$12,850)	
8. Enclose Dumpsters	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	\$71,591

The Mayor and Council agreed to the smoothseal expenditure of \$12,850.00 and extermination as noted using Community Development Funds. There was a lengthy discussion on the operation of the Housing Authority and the Mayor will discuss this with the Chairman.

Landlord Tenant Affairs

Mr. Hobbs briefed the Mayor and Council on the operation of the Landlord Tenant Affairs under the new ordinance. It is the staff's recommendation that the operation be transferred to the Community Development and Housing Assistance Department under the direction of Mr. Keesling. His salary was formerly paid out of CDBG funds since he operated the "Free Paint Program" and that portion of his salary will now be picked up through the Landlord Tenant Funds.

Middle Lane Parking Lot

The Council agreed to do nothing at the present time.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Financial Administration

The Council made no changes.

Purchasing and Contracts

The Council made no changes.

Personnel Administration

The Council made no changes.

Lincoln Park Housing Action Plan

The Council agreed to look into an additional flight of steps for faster access to the overpass on Frederick Avenue and to increase the lighting capacity there.

Rockville Pike Study

Mr. Blick suggested due to the increase of development causing traffic congestion on the Pike, the Mayor and Council might consider hiring a consultant to do a study on traffic on the Pike. The Mayor and Council agreed to put \$50,000 on the wish list.

Re: Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council in work session, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 p.m. to convene again in work session on Saturday, June 9, 1984, at 9:00 a.m. or at the call of the Mayor.